± 1.0 as determined by chromatofocusing, and induces the production of IFN-γ by immunocompetent cells[,

and wherein the amino acid sequence of the IGIF is encoded by a murine cDNA which hybridized to a probe having the coding sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1 at 60°C in a solution of 5x SSPE, 5x Denhardts's solution, and 0.5% (w/v) SDS, and 100 µg/ml denatured salmon sperm DNA].

Please add new claims 89-91 as follows:

--89. The monoclonal antibody according to claim 59, wherein the amino acid sequence of said IGIF protein is encoded by a cDNA which hybridizes with a probe having the coding sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1 or with a fragment of SEQ ID NO:3 at 60°C in a solution of 5 x SSPE, 5x Denhardts' solution, 0.5% (w/v) SDS, and 100 µg/ml denatured salmon sperm DNA.--

--90. The monoclonal antibody according to claim 59, wherein said IGIF protein is of mouse origin.--

--91. Monoclonal antibody M-1.--

--92. A method for producing monoclonal antibodies against IGIF protein, comprising the steps of:

immunizing an animal with an interferon-gamma (IFN-γ) inducing factor (IGIF or IL-18) protein or an antigenic fragment thereof to raise antibodies, wherein the IGIF protein has a molecular weight of 19 ± 5 kDa as determined by gel filtration or non-reducing SDS-PAGE and a pI of 4.8 ± 1.0 as

determined by chromatofocusing, and induces the production of IFN-γ by immunocompetent cells;

fusing spleen cells obtained from the immunized animal with mammalian cells capable of infinitely proliferating to generate hybridomas;

selecting hybridomas producing monoclonal antibodies against IGIF protein; and

culturing a selected hybridoma to produce monoclonal antibodies against IGIF protein.--

Claim 67, line 3, after "IGIF", insert --protein--.

Claim 68, line 2, after "IGIF", insert --protein--.

Claim 70, line 2, before "insoluble", delete "an" and insert therefor --a water--.

Claim 71, line 2, after "amount", delete "to" and insert therefor --of--, and same line after "IGIF", insert --protein--.

Claim 73, line 2, after "IGIF", insert --protein--.

Claim 74, line 6, after "IGIF", insert --protein--.

Claim 76, line 2, before "insoluble", delete "an" and insert therefor --a water--.